	Total Central Assistance			Percapita Central Assistance		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
	(Rs. Crore)			(Rupees)		
13. Maharashtra	2678.8	2385.81	2729.43	300.31	262.47	295.07
14. Manipur	310.82	331.68	388.49	1480.10	1507.64	1765.86
15. Meghalaya	286.77	300.55	342.81	1433.85	1431.19	1632.43
16. Mizoram	247.92	280.09	324.17	3099.00	3501.13	3601.89
17. Nagaland	380.81	437.19	524.12	2538.73	2914.60	3275.75
18. Orissa	1934.96	1664.52	1828.47	545.06	461.09	498.22
19. Punjab	656.98	587.16	671.13	295.94	260.96	294.36
20. Rajasthan	2230.27	1964.27	2253.56	446.05	385.15	434.21
21. Sikkim	106.9	109.63	126.20	2138.00	2192.60	2524.00
22. Tamil Nadu	2728.3	2408.98	2761.63	459.31	402.17	456.47
23. Tripura	429.77	457.02	530.54	1343.03	1384.91	1607.70
24. Uttar Pradesh	7114.66	6267.72	7192.06	458.71	397.70	449.50
25. West Bengal	3047.77	2692.14	3086.90	403.68	351.00	397.28
TOTAL	43562.21	38163.09	44796.80	488.37	412.72	464.60

Restructuring of Planning Commission

1371. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether a blue print for restructuring of the Planning Commission is in the pipeline for quite long;

(b) what are its salient features;

(c) whether Government would ensure that the agriculture, wasteland drought and excessive rains in one part and to the contrary on the other part of the country are well monitored by so called print; and

(d) what special efforts are being planned for improvement in education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Planning Commission has been engaged in an exercise to determine what would be the most effective role for the Commission in the altered domestic and global scenario. A draft proposal prepared to this effect is presently under submission to the Prime Minister for consideration and convening a meeting of the Full Planning Commission.

(c) Yes, Sir. Monitoring the impact of various Plan Schemes including those in agriculture, wasteland, drought prone areas etc. is being emphasised by the Planning Commission. Government is committed to bring about a regionally balanced agricultural development in the country. Development of wastelands, drought prone areas and desert areas has also been given a high priority. In this context, the Department of Land Resources has been created in the Ministry of Rural Development to take a holistic and long terms view on development of land resources in the country. Programmes for development of these areas are being taken up on a water shed basis.

(d) The ongoing Ninth Five Year Plan outlines the initiatives and programmes for improvement in education. Among the special efforts that have been taken up, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is to ensure that every child in the 6 to 14 age group is provided with elementary education by the year 2010; The nutritional support to primary education (Mid-day Meal Scheme) is being continued to boost universalisation of primary education by increasing enrolment, retention, attendance and improving the nutritional status of children. A new scheme called National Programme for Women's Education is being formulated. In addition, there is an emphasis on increasing education opportunities in the educationally backward blocks. More improtantly in the course of the Plan, Government has significantly stepped up its budgetary support to the Education Sector.

Technology Fund for Small Scale Sector

1372. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Planning Commission Panel has recommended the establishment of Rs. 5000 crore Technology Fund for the Small Scale Sector;

(b) if so, the details of this recommendation;